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11 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Central Reference Service

: Acting Chief, Information Services Group Cry THROUGH

Acting Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

FROM

: Acting Chief, South America Branch

SUBJECT

: MAGID Study of DDI Orientation for New

Professionals

1. I am in agreement with the recommendations of the MAGID study. I disagree with the finding (paragraph 2) that "The IWA course provides a view of the Agency as a whole and is a good general course that should not be changed" (emphasis added).

2. I took the IWA course (or whatever it was called then) some 6 years ago as a wet-behind-the-ears CT. took it last October. I looked at syllabus for the course. It was most familiar. It brought back lots of memories, especially of how confused I got about what the hell people were talking about, and from DDO were bright spots because they were highly entertaining (or did they show up in the "Intelligence Orientation" portion that preceded the TWA section?).

3. I admit that I'm talking about the course from a distance even greater than the peanut gallery, but I think the TWA course could be shaped up a bit. Specifically, I think there's too much emphasis on Communism and not enough on how the Agency ticks. And the treatment of the Intelligence Community is definitely fast-brush. The description of the course is a bit misleading (page 51 in your Training Catalog).

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SUBJECT: MAGID Study of DDI Orientation for New Professionals (Cont.)

- 4. Now, you can only stuff so much material into any given course. All the same, a more leisurely and careful look at the Intelligence Community would be useful, as well as a good rundown of interworkings: Take a non-sensitive NSSM, for instance, a relatively short one, and run it through from start to finish, including a resultant NSDM. Let the class read the whole thing. This could even double as a "near-current" foreign policy issue of high interest to the US Government.
- 5. As for a "view of the Agency as a whole"--pick some operation where all four Directorates had a piece of the action and go through it step by step. Not a hypothetical one, but a real one.
- 6. MAGID is recommending that people take the IWA course between the 3rd and 9th months after EOD. Most will not know all that much about anything at this stage of their budding careers. It is therefore all the more important that the IWA course be substantively balanced, that fast-brush treatments be avoided, and that presentations of the Agency and its relationships with the White House, the National Security Council (staff), and the Intelligence Community be carefully and thoughtfully presented. Things will not always work out as described, of course—but good examples of how they can, should, and sometimes do work should be stressed.

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